(ङ) सौराष्ट्र कच्छ क्षेत्र के किन-किन जिलों में प्राकृतिक गैस और तेल भंडारों के मिलने की संभावना है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग द्वारा कच्छ क्षेत्र में एरोमेगनेटिक, भू-वैज्ञानिक, ग्रविटि मैगनेटिक, मैगनेटो टेलूरिक, ट्रांसिएंट इलेक्ट्रोमेगनेटिक (टी.ई.एम.), डीप इलेक्ट्रिकल, डीप सोसमिक साउंडिंग और 2-डी सीसमिक सर्वेक्षणों के द्वारा 5 अन्वेषणात्मक कूपों और भावनगर क्षेत्र में 2 संरचनात्मक उथले कूपों के वेधन करते यह क्षेत्र कवर कर लिया गया है। तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग द्वारा गुजरात के जामनगर, राजकोट, अमरेली, सुरेन्द्र नगर और भावनगर जिलों में अन्वषण कार्य आयोजित किया गया है आयल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने भी सौराष्ट्र अपतटीय क्षेत्र में सीसमिक सर्वेक्षण किए हैं।

(ग) से (ङ) तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग द्वारा पश्चिमी जर्मनी की मै० जियोमैट्रा कम्पनी के सहयोग के साथ योगात्मक आधार पर 14.57 लाख रुपए की लागत पर समर्थन सुविधाओं को बढ़ाने के लिए ट्रांसिएंट-इलेक्ट्रोमेगनेटिक (टी.ई.एम.) सर्वेक्षण आयोजित किया गया था। आयल इंडिया लि० ने 8.37 करोड़ रुपए की कुल लागत पर मै० वैस्टर्न जियोलाजिकल, लंदन के माध्यम से सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ अपतटीय क्षेत्र में सीसमिक सर्वेक्षण आयोजित किया।

अब तक सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ भूमि पर किसी तेल/गैस की खोज नहीं हुई है। तथापि तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग द्वारा कच्छ के समीपस्थ अपतटीय क्षेत्र में तेल और गैस की उपस्थिति स्थापित की गई है। अतिरिक्त अन्वेषण प्रयासों के बाद हाइड्रोकार्बन संभावनाओं का पता चल सकेगा।

Oil exploration programme at Bhavnagar in Gujarat

772. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any oil exploration programme has recently been carried out in Bhavnagar in Gujarat State;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Recently no oil exploration has been carried out in Bhavnagar in Gujarat State. Based on the geoscientific surveys carried out and structural shallow wells drilled in Bhavnagar earlier, the area is considered less prospective.

MOU with Iran

773. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Iran to prepare a feasibility report on laying a sub-sea pipeline from Iran to India for supply of natural gas;

(b) if so, what are the fiscal implications of this project and whether India can afford to go for a project of this magnitude as it has already entered into such a pact with Oman; and

(c) whether India has explored the possibilities of building up an alternate source of oil especially in Indonesia or Brunei in the far-east?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The MOU signed with Iran provides for a pre-feasibility study

of the sub-sea pipeline from Iran to India.

(b) The fiscal, technical and other implications will arise only after the pre-feasibility study is completed.

(c) Efforts for developing alternative source of crude oil are made continuously keeping in view their suitability and competitiveness.

Israel's offer to process crude

774. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Israel has offered its spare refinery capacity to process crude on India's account;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the proposal; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) An Israeli oil company by the name of Oil Refineries Limited has made an offer to Indian Oil Corporation for supply of diesel (HSD) on terms to be mutually agreed upon.

(c) There is no proposal at present to purchase crude or petroleum products from Israel during 1993-94.

Reduction in outlay for ONGC

775. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total outlay for ONGC has been slashed by half;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such reduction;

(c) whether production of crude is likely to be affected by such reduction; and

(d) if so, in what manner the domestic requirement of oil is going to be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) Against a proposed outlay of Rs. 33,393 crores by ONGC for the 8th Plan Period, Government has approved an outlay of Rs. 17,511 crores. The reduction in outlay was necessitated due to less availability of resources at the time of making sectorwise allocation for the 8th Five Year Plan. However, it was indicated that physical programme of work and production need not be reduced as necessary funds would be made available on a year to year basis.

The original target of 180.726 MMT of crude oil production has been revised to 149.40 MMT during the 8th Plan Period mainly because of the delay in development of selected fields under JVC, rectificatory measures adopted to restore the health of the reservoirs, delay in implementation of field development projects and environmental problems in Assam.

(d) The domestic requirement of the crude oil will be met through imports to the extent of short-fall in the indigenous production against the demand.

LPG bottling plants in Bihar

776. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG bottling plants which have so far been established by various public sector oil companies in the State of Bihar and how many of them are operational with plant-wise details thereof;

(b) whether these bottling plants are sufficient to cater to the needs of the entire State;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to set up more LPG bottling plants